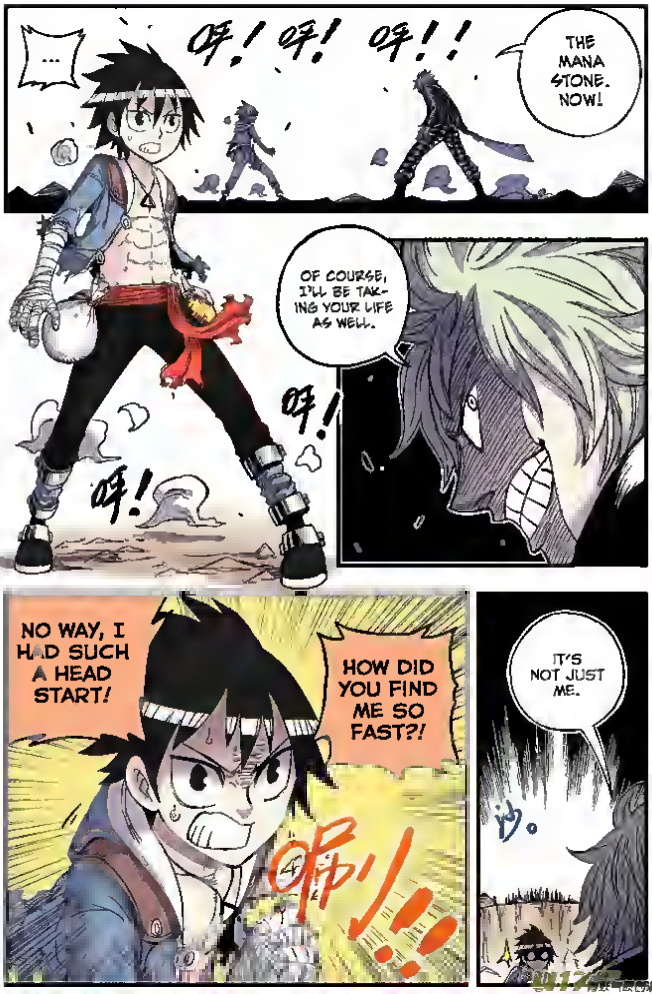
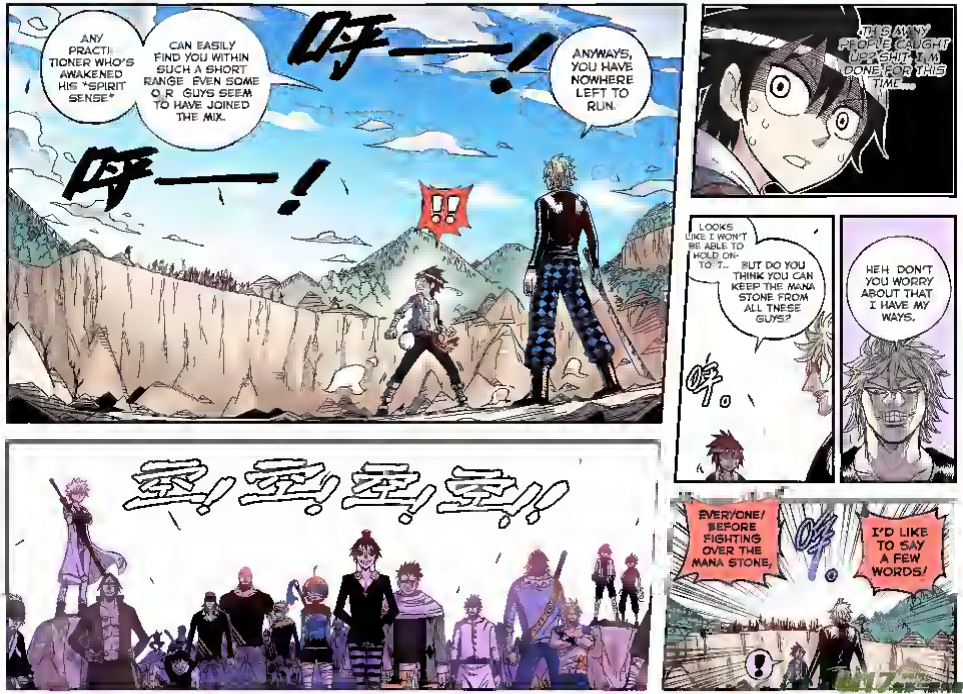
CHAPTER 22 – BITTER BATTLE
STORY & ART: HAN YAN


...
呼！呼！呼！！
THE MANA STONE. NOW!
OF COURSE, I'LL BE TAKING YOUR LIFE AS WELL.
呼！
呼！
NO WAY, I HAD SUCH A HEAD START!
HOW DID YOU FIND ME SO FAST?!
呼！！！
IT'S NOT JUST ME.
沙。


ANY PRACTITIONER WHO'S AWAKENED HIS "SPIRIT SENSE"
CAN EASILY FIND YOU WITHIN SUCH A SHORT RANGE. EVEN SOME OF YOU GUYS SEEM TO HAVE JOINED THE MIX.
ANYWAYS, YOU HAVE NOWHERE LEFT TO RUN.
呼——!
呼——!
...THIS MANY PEOPLE CAUGHT UP. SHIT... I'M DONE FOR THIS TIME...
LOOKS LIKE I WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD ON TO IT... BUT DO YOU THINK YOU CAN KEEP THE MANA STONE FROM ALL THESE GUYS?
呼
HEH. DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THAT. I HAVE MY WAYS.
EVERYONE! BEFORE FIGHTING OVER THE MANA STONE,
I'D LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS!
呼
呼!呼!呼!呼!!

I AM XIAO HUANG, THE YOUNG MASTER OF THE BLOOD-SHINE SECT FROM THE FIRE-CLOUD NATION!
AS SOME OF YOU MAY KNOW, THIS GUY HAS BEEN OUR TARGET FOR A LONG TIME NOW.
AS SUCH, I HOPE YOU WILL ALLOW THE BLOODSHINE SECT TO TAKE CARE OF HIM!
!!!
ARE YOU JOKING?! THAT GUY IS CARRYING THE MANA STONE!
ARE YOU TRYING TO USE THAT LAME EXCUSE TO KEEP THE STONE FOR YOURSELF?!
QUIT DREAMING! WHO GIVES A SHIT ABOUT THE BLOOD-SHINE SECT?!
BLOOD SHINE SECT? WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S JUST SOME SECOND-RATE ORGANIZATION FROM THE FIRECLOUD NATION YOUNG MASTER
STRANGE, I CAN'T SEEM TO SEE THAT BLUE SHIRT'S PATH WITH MY DIVINATION?
HOW DARE YOU?! DON'T MISTAKE OUR YOUNG MASTER'S COURTESY FOR WEAKNESS!
SHUT UP! THERE'S NO WAY WE'LL GIVE UP ON THE MANA STONE!
EVERYONE PLEASE REMAIN CALM! I'M NOT FINISHED YET!

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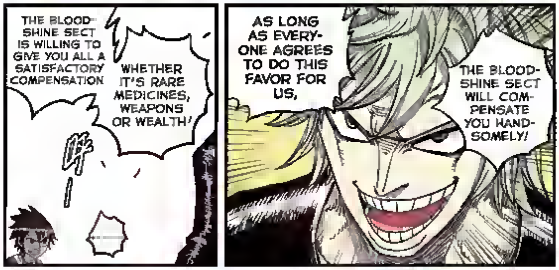
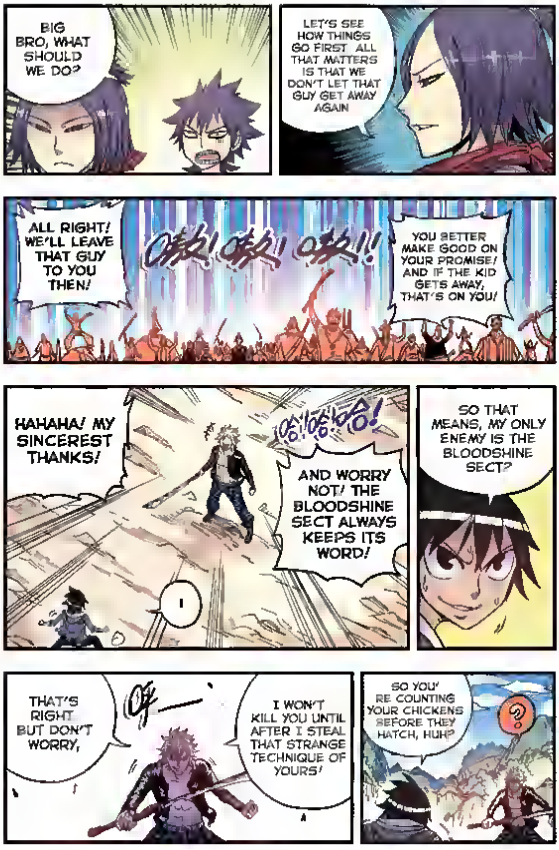
OBVIOUSLY THE MANA STONE IS A RARE TREASURE,
BUT WE HAVE COUNTLESS MASTERS GATHERED HERE, AND ONLY ONE MANA STONE!
IF WE WERE ALL TO DUKE IT OUT MOST OF YOU WILL LEAVE WITH NOTHING, IF YOU COME OUT ALIVE, THAT IS!
HOWEVER, I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO GIVE UP WITHOUT ANYTHING IN RETURN!
呼!
呼!
呼!


THE BLOODSHINE SECT IS WILLING TO GIVE YOU ALL A SATISFACTORY COMPENSATION
WHETHER IT'S RARE MEDICINES, WEAPONS OR WEALTH!
呼!
AS LONG AS EVERYONE AGREES TO DO THIS FAVOR FOR US,
THE BLOODSHINE SECT WILL COMPENSATE YOU HANDSOMELY!

KEH
ALTHOUGH NO WEAPONS OR HERBS CAN COMPARE WITH THE MANA STONE IT WOULD BE NEAR IMPOSSIBLE TO CLAIM IT
哈哈
哈哈
IN A WAY, IT DOES MAKE MORE SENSE TO LET IT GO.
WE CAN AVOID A FIGHT AND WON'T LEAVE EMPTY HANDED SHOULD WE JUST GIVE IT UP?
FIGHTING WITH THIS MANY PEOPLE WE MIGHT NOT END UP WITH ANYTHING AT ALL.
哈哈
YOUNG MASTER?
LET'S SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE SHOW IT'S NOT LIKE WE ABSOLUTELY NEED THE MANA STONE


BIG BRO, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
LET'S SEE HOW THINGS GO FIRST. ALL THAT MATTERS IS THAT WE DON'T LET THAT GUY GET AWAY AGAIN
ALL RIGHT! WE'LL LEAVE THAT GUY TO YOU THEN!
哦!哦!哦!!
YOU BETTER MAKE GOOD ON YOUR PROMISE! AND IF THE KID GETS AWAY, THAT'S ON YOU!
HAHAHA! MY SINCEREST THANKS!
哦!哦!哦!
AND WORRY NOT! THE BLOODSHINE SECT ALWAYS KEEPS ITS WORD!
SO THAT MEANS, MY ONLY ENEMY IS THE BLOODSHINE SECT?
THAT'S RIGHT. BUT DON'T WORRY,
呼
I WON'T KILL YOU UNTIL AFTER I STEAL THAT STRANGE TECHNIQUE OF YOURS!
SO YOU'RE COUNTING YOUR CHICKENS BEFORE THEY HATCH, HUH?

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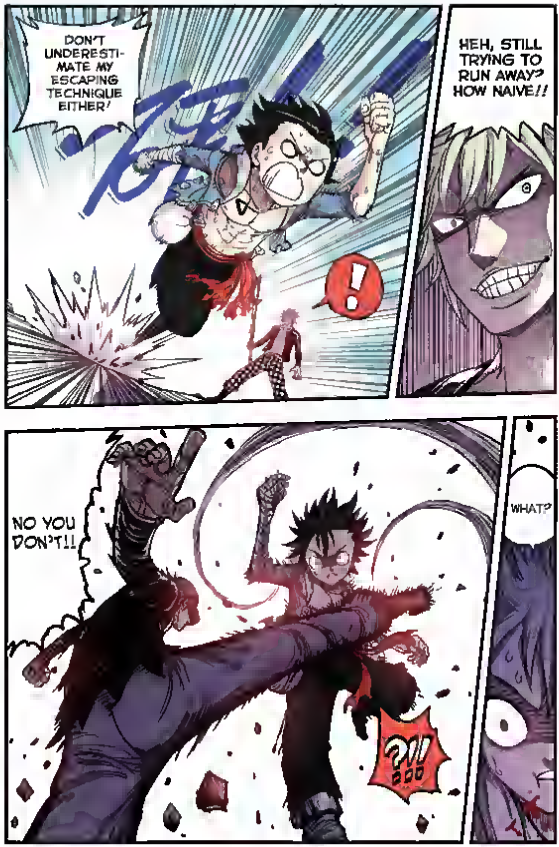
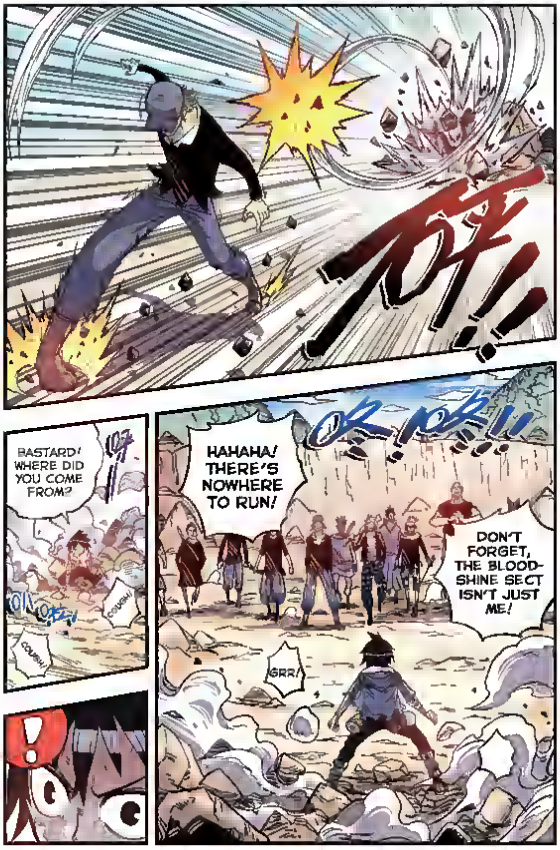

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE MY ESCAPING TECHNIQUE EITHER!
HEH, STILL TRYING TO RUN AWAY? HOW NAIVE!!
!
NO YOU DON'T!!
WHAT?
?!!


OH!!
BASTARD! WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
COUGH!
COUGH!
HAHAHA! THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN!
OK!
DON'T FORGET, THE BLOOD-SHINE SECT ISN'T JUST ME!
GRR!

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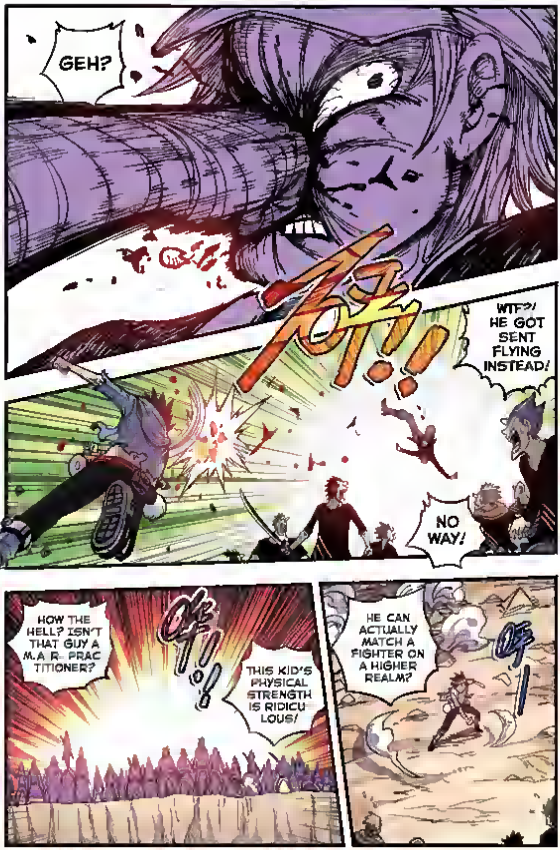
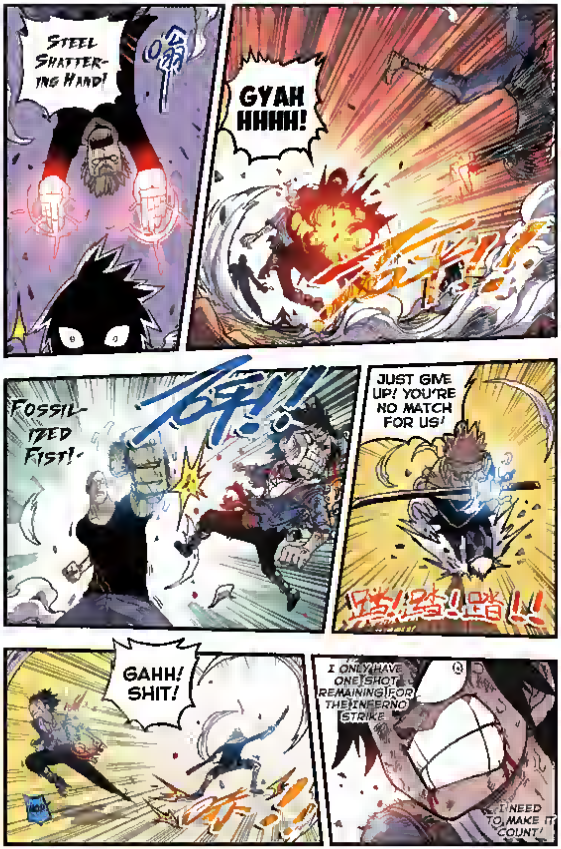
DAMMIT! THEY HAVE SO MANY PEOPLE ON THEIR SIDE
AND I'M SURE MANY OF THEM ARE M.A.R PRACTITIONERS.
HEHEH, WELL? IF YOU HAND OVER THE MANA STONE AND YOUR MARTIAL ART WILLINGLY, I MIGHT JUST LEAVE YOUR CORPSE IN ONE PIECE
SFX: SNICKER
IN YOUR DREAMS! THIS IS THE MARTIAL ART MY OLD MAN LEFT ME!
I WON'T LET YOU HAVE IT EVEN IF I DIE!
WHO GIVES A SHIT ABOUT YOUR OLD MAN OR OLD LADY. GET HIM!
I HAVE WAYS OF MAKING YOU TALK!
I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TRY!
A MERE D-R EIGHTH STAGE AND STILL SO COCKY! DON'T FORGET WHO SENT YOU FLYING EARLIER!


GEH?
WTF?! HE GOT SENT FLYING INSTEAD!
NO WAY!
HOW THE HELL? ISN'T THAT GUY A M.A.R. PRACTITIONER?
THIS KID'S PHYSICAL STRENGTH IS RIDICULOUS!
HE CAN ACTUALLY MATCH A FIGHTER ON A HIGHER REALM?

DUMBASS! DON'T UNDERESTIMATE HIM!
S-SORRY!
THIS GUY'S PHYSICAL CONSTITUTION IS STRONGER THAN THAT OF REGULAR MARTIAL ARTISTS AND YOU GUYS DON'T EVEN HAVE "ARTIFACTS" YET
RUSH AT HIM TOGETHER!
GO AFTER HIM USING TECHNIQUES!
THERE'S NO WAY HE'LL HAVE MORE VIGOUR THAN US!
!!
SHOCKWAVE PALM!
GAHHH!
DAMMIT!


STEEL SHATTERING HAND!
GYAH HHHH!
FOSSILIZED FIST!
JUST GIVE UP! YOU'RE NO MATCH FOR US!
GAHH! SHIT!
I ONLY HAVE ONE SHOT REMAINING FOR THE INFERNO STRIKE
I NEED TO MAKE IT COUNT!

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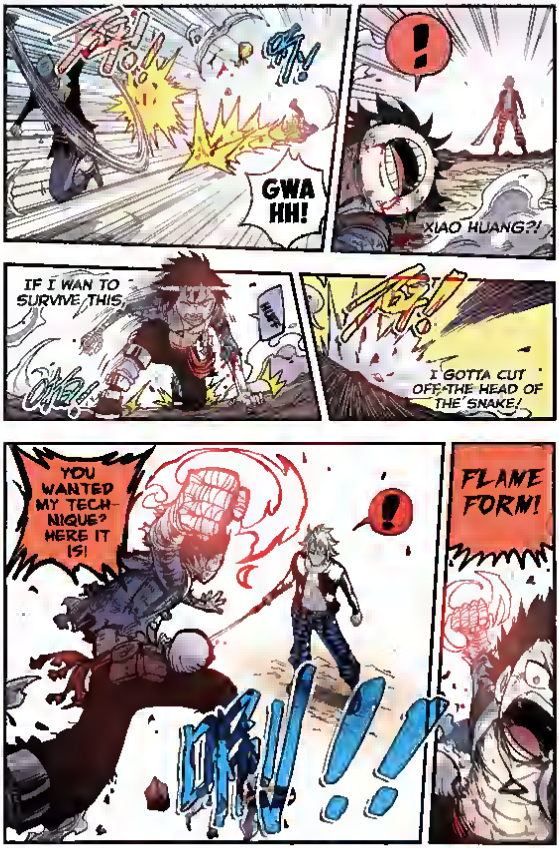
GWA HH!
!
XIAO HUANG?!
IF I WAN TO SURVIVE THIS,
HUFF
I GOTTA CUT OFF THE HEAD OF THE SNAKE!
YOU WANTED MY TECH-NIQUE? HERE IT IS!
!
FLAME FORM!

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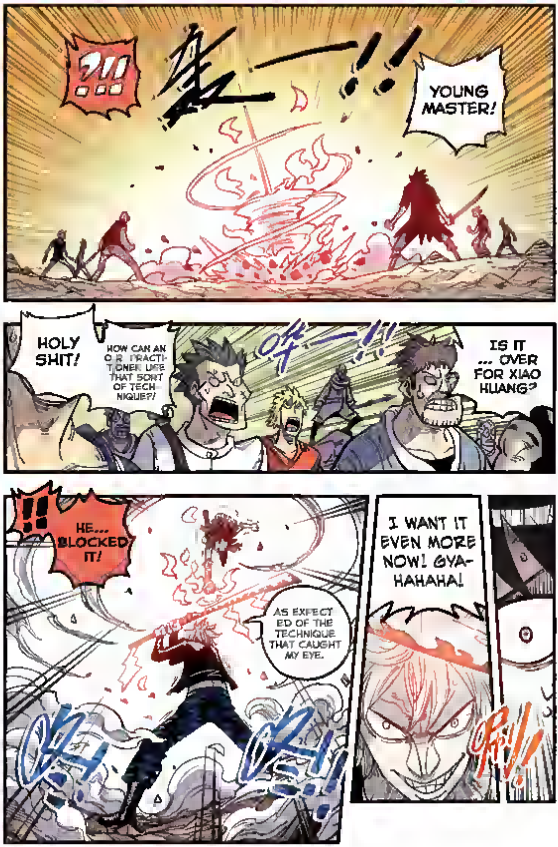
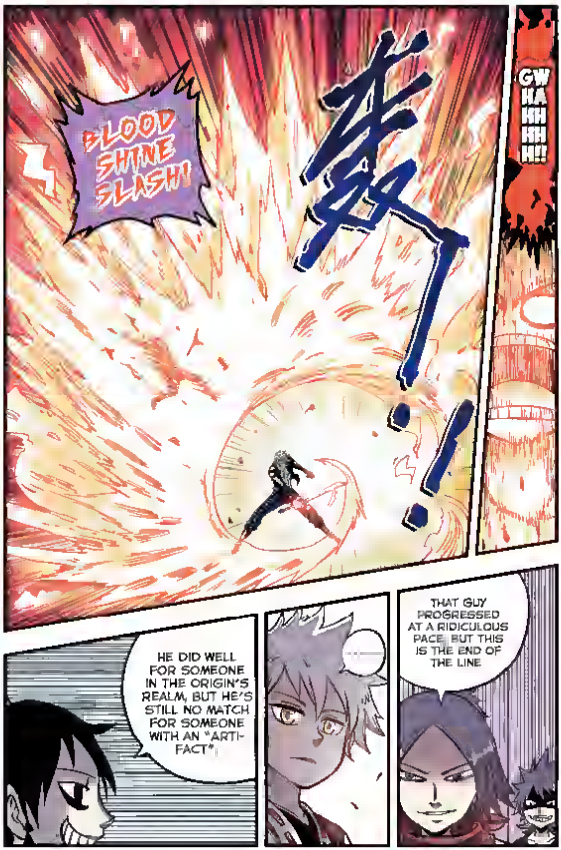

?!!
YOUNG MASTER!
HOLY SHIT!
HOW CAN AN O.S. PRACTITONER USE THAT SORT OF TECHNIQUE?
IS IT ... OVER FOR XIAO HUANG?
!!
HE... BLOCKED IT!
AS EXPECTED OF THE TECHNIQUE THAT CAUGHT MY EYE.
I WANT IT EVEN MORE NOW! GYA-HAHAHA!


BLOOD SHINE SLASH!
GWAHHHHH!!
THAT GUY PROGRESSED AT A RIDICULOUS PACE, BUT THIS IS THE END OF THE LINE
HE DID WELL FOR SOMEONE IN THE ORIGIN'S REALM, BUT HE'S STILL NO MATCH FOR SOMEONE WITH AN "ARTIFACT"!

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COUGH!
DO YOU GET IT NOW?
NO MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY, AN ANT IS STILL JUST AN ANT!
COUGH!
COUGH
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE END..
SFX: SEARCH— SEARCH—
EVEN MASTER XIAO HEI CAN'T GET MAD AT ME FOR USING THIS NOW
KID, TAKE THIS PILL WITH YOU!

TL NOTE: A PLAY ON WORDS IN CHINESE, "WU DI" CAN ALSO MEAN "PEERLESS" OR "INVINCIBLE"

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GYAAAAHHHHHHHH!!
THE BLACK BLADE RETURNS!
?!!

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